



Association of Bay Area Governments

Hotel Claremont • Berkeley, California 94705 • (415) 841-9730

September 19, 1974

Dear Local Official:

Economics and growth are critical and interrelated issues in the Bay Area. ABAG's General Assembly will tackle them on October 30, 1974.

Proposed policies on economic development and regional growth management will be discussed by the General Assembly at afternoon "roundtables" before formal action at the evening business session. Issue Paper #5, Economic Issues in Growth Policy Formulation, (enclosed) provides background information for discussion and decision-making.

Delegates are urged to bring the proposed policy statements before their Councils or Boards for consideration--as well as discussing the issues with constituents and colleagues.

The attached questionnaire may be used for your comments on the proposed policies. All questionnaires and additional comments received before October 23, 1974 will be compiled and summarized for distribution at the General Assembly meeting.

ABAG is seeking to provide for full deliberation on these important questions of economics and growth, so please let us know your opinions and join in the decisions on October 30.

Sincerely,

Warren Boggess, President
Supervisor, Contra Costa County

Enclosures

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September 19, 1974

ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS

PROPOSED GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION NO. 1-74

POLICY STATEMENT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGIONAL GROWTH MANAGEMENT

WHEREAS Resolution No. 3-73 adopted by the General Assembly in October, 1973, provided that the region should plan for a Year 2000 population ranging from 6.0 to 7.5 million and related jobs and urbanized land, that Resolution further provided that the implications of growth within that range should be evaluated for further policy consideration; and

WHEREAS ABAG has now completed preliminary evaluation of some aspects of the economic consequences of growth management in the Bay Area; and

WHEREAS ABAG recognizes that final conclusions and decisions concerning growth management programs in the Bay Area must also reflect findings concerning the impact of growth management action on special population groups, environmental and natural resources utilization, and fiscal health of Bay Area communities; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that ABAG adopts the following Policy Statement concerning economic development objectives in regional growth management in order to provide a basis for coordination of programs, advising local governments, and review of plans and projects affecting regional economic development objectives in the Bay Area.

RESOLVE 1 - POLICY OBJECTIVES

A. Employment and Economic Opportunities Objectives

1. Public programs shall seek to establish as a minimum a level of regional economic development so that the total number of jobs in the region matches the total resident labor force without substantial net in-migration. Under current expected rates of natural increase, such a rate would approximate 1 percent annual growth leading to a Year 2000 population of 6.0 million supported by 2.6 million jobs.
2. Public investment to support economic development actions resulting in substantial net in-migration to the region should be supported only if careful examination determines that - on balance - such growth would clearly assist the region in meeting high priority social and economic objectives and that such growth would not place undue strain on environmental and natural resources and the fiscal base of affected communities.
3. The creation of sufficient job opportunities is only the first step to improving economic opportunities for disadvantaged population groups. Private industry efforts along with further public actions in the fields of transportation planning, housing, industrial location, and job training programs will also be required to equalize economic opportunity among all population groups. Access to job opportunities through more responsive transportation systems, improved housing programs, and creation of new job centers near areas of recurring high unemployment must be combined with coordinated job training programs.

4. ABAG will continuously review, analyze, and monitor economic trends in order to foster more effective public consideration of economic development programs.

B. Human Resources Objective

1. Job training programs and economic opportunities in the major labor markets of the region, including coordination of new job development programs with education and manpower programs, should be closely matched to foster greater access for disadvantaged population groups.

C. Fiscal Objective

1. Fiscally healthy communities are required for effective government in the Bay Area. Fiscal bases generated by economic development projects should be utilized to support the costs of dealing with the physical environment and the social impact of major development actions. Ways to equitably resolve the negative consequences of competition for increasing job opportunities and/or tax base among communities must be found.

RESOLVE II - IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

In review of plans and project proposals ABAG shall support achievement of social and economic objectives without placing an undue stress upon environmental and natural resources of the region. ABAG will:

- A. Support plans and projects that reflect desired pace and location of development and rebuilding based on a consistent regional framework of population, jobs, housing, and urban land. The framework shall be prepared in cooperation and consultation with local governments as well as regional agencies and reflect a balance of regional and local needs. Special justification shall be required for plans and projects that clearly do not reflect the policies of the regional framework.

- B. Support plans and projects that achieve social and economic objectives of better access to jobs through transportation services, community housing balance and job training programs. Priority shall be given to job programs in central cities and areas of economic distress. Special justification shall be required for projects that would diminish access to jobs for economically disadvantaged groups or increase regional dependency on long job-residence commuting.
- C. Support programs and projects that fulfill social and economic objectives without placing an undue stress on crucial environmental resources and on natural resources in the Bay Area. Special justification shall be required for proposals that would place additional stress on critical environmental or natural resources defined by ABAG.
- D. Support plans and projects that offer opportunities to innovate in sharing of fiscal resources resulting from major development proposals among affected governmental units.
- E. Undertake a program of policy analysis and evaluation to strengthen the region's capability to monitor and evaluate economic development and rebuilding plans and proposals. This program will:
 - 1. Monitor economic trends and assess implications for comprehensive development of the region and its units of government.
 - 2. Conduct research and analysis to build a more complete understanding of the implications and contributions of economic development in terms of total jobs and also industry mix, job mix, and income characteristics. Determination of the most appropriate public participation and support of minority and disadvantaged groups shall be a prime consideration in this effort.

3. Work with area manpower programs and agencies to insure that the best fit possible is made between job skill needs and labor force capabilities in the major labor market areas of the region.
4. Continue exploring policies and governmental mechanisms that can be utilized to secure a balanced regional economy consonant with the region's social, economic, fiscal, and environmental well-being.

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Economic Development and Regional Growth Management

San Francisco Bay Region

RESOLVE I - POLICY OBJECTIVES

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4. ABAG will continuously review, analyze, and monitor economic trends in order to foster more effective public consideration of economic development programs.

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Your opinion

Strongly agree	No opinion	Strongly disagree
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Comments

Should this become ABAG policy on economic development?

Economic development impacts upon growth of the Bay Area and consequences of slower growth on the region's economy have been subjects of much concern and dispute in the development of ABAG's regional growth policy. On October 30th ABAG's General Assembly will consider a series of policies and regional objectives prepared with a supporting issue paper for economic development of the Bay Area. ABAG is seeking the opinions and comments of a wide variety of interested citizen groups on this vital issue. This questionnaire presents the proposed policies and asks for your opinion on each policy. It provides room for your overall comments and suggestions as well. Please consider the issues discussed in the issue paper along with the proposed policies, make notes and return this folder to us or bring it with you to the General Assembly meeting at the Oakland Hilton Inn on October 30th.